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## OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

30 December 1947

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MEMORANDUM TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Technical Data, Reference your request dated 16 December 1947.

1. With reference to your request dated 16 December 1947 this office forwards the following information:

a. There is very little definite evidence regarding conversion to standard gauge on lines extending into the USSR. The following constitutes the only available information:

- (1) [ ] standard gauge rails exist all the way from East Prussia to Leningrad. Although the names Vilna, Daugavpils, and Pskov were not mentioned, it was indicated that standard gauge exists along the Vilna-Leningrad railway. (P-3)
  - (2) [ ] reported in June 1947 that standard gauge exists from Rost Litovsk to Moscow. [ ]
  - (3) No information.
  - (4) [ ] reported a standard gauge railway from Kiev to Lvov completed as of July 1947. The line from Krakow-Frankfurt-Lvov was scheduled for reconversion in November 1947. This information recently has been reliably confirmed. (B-2)
- b. Any conversion with reference to (1), (2) and (3) above would serve to facilitate the movement of rolling stock into the USSR for conversion and to dilute somewhat the bottleneck in railroad communications between USSR and Central Europe. With reference to (4) above, conversion is believed to have been undertaken in order to speed the importation of coal into the Ukraine from Upper Silesia.

Document No. [ ]

NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☐

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S (2)

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

Date: 13/10/77 By: [ ]

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2. Regarding Soviet indigenous tungsten supply and Soviet tungsten purchases:

- (1) The USSR is believed to be short of tungsten from internal sources. It is estimated that 1944 Soviet production of  $W_3$  (tungsten 60% concentrates) will be 6,000 tons against approximate requirements of 8,000 tons.
- (2) One other major deposit exists at Dahida in the Buryat-Mongolian U.S.S.R. Minor deposits exist in the Urals, Kazakhstan, the area east of Lake Baikal including Chita Oblast, and Western Siberia. (See Map.)
- (3) The existence in the USSR of any ore as high grade as that at Tyrny-Auz is unknown. By American mining standards, even the ores at Tyrny-Auz are only medium grade and are complex in nature.
- (4) In China, the Soviets could most readily purchase large quantities of tungsten (wolfram ores) to make up Soviet deficiencies in the metal. The Soviets may be purchasing tungsten for stockpiling purposes.
- (5) China is the only country known to be exporting tungsten to the USSR. However, it is possible that the USSR is obtaining a large part of her requirements from Korea. The Minerals Yearbook for 1945 lists Korean production of 60%  $W_3$  (tungsten) concentrates as follows:

1937 — 1590	metric tons
1938 — 2625	metric tons
*1944 — 10,155	metric tons

Although no information is available on Soviet postwar imports of tungsten concentrates from Korea, it is logical that the Soviets would exploit the large, high-grade deposits located there. If the Soviets are able to realize fully or even approximate Korean 1944 production of tungsten concentrates, this production alone might very well supply all USSR requirements and allow for the stockpiling of considerable amounts of tungsten.

\* The State Department Korean Economic Commission figure issued in 1947, for 1944 Korean tungsten production of 8,022 metric tons is considered more accurate.

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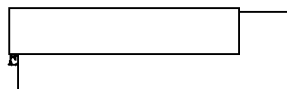
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A possible future source of high grade tungsten concentrates (4.6%) exists in Manchuria near Antung and Mukden.

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Reports and Estimates



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